

PRICE LIST.

ONE MACHINE, either size, with 72 Needle Cylinder, and Needles, with Bobbin-winder and Swifts, 3 Bobbins, 6 extra Needles, Oil Can, Screw Driver, Work Hook, Set Up, Heel Hooks, Weights, and every thing else to complete and render the machine perfect and ready for operation, . . . \$25.00

Combination, either size, with 72 Cylinder and Needles, . . . 15.00

When machines are ordered with more than 72 Needle Cylinder, the extra needles and slots in cylinder will be charged for at the rate of 6½ cents.

EXTRA CYLINDERS.

Needle Cylinders cut and always on hand, to hold the following number of needles: 48, 52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 72, 76, 80, 84, 88, 92, 96, 100, 104, 108, 112, 116, 120. Price, 5 cents per slot, without needles.

Multiply the number of slots in a cylinder by 5, and this will give you the price of cylinder.

NEEDLES.

Needles, per hundred, . . . \$1.50 | Needles, per doz., by mail, \$0.20

Machines are not sold on weekly or monthly payments, and persons applying for agencies must pay full price for *first machine and combination head*. We will not make any discount on a single first order, and it is not worth while to ask us. Nor will we send out machines on trial, but guarantee every machine to be as represented, or we will take it back and refund the money.

HOW TO ORDER A MACHINE.

All money must be sent in **Registered Letters, Post-office Orders**, or by **Express**, pre-paid, or **Draft**. Address communications plainly, giving Full Name, Post-office, County, and State, to be certain of an answer.

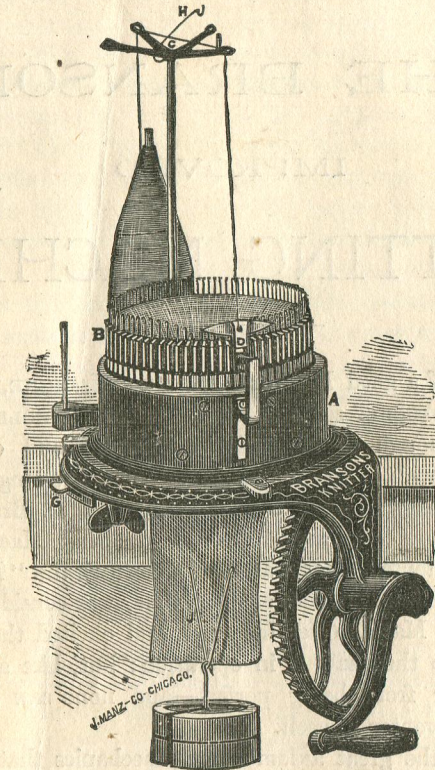
Where machines are to be sent C. O. D. (collect on delivery), we must have at least \$5.00 of the price in **ADVANCE**, as an assurance that the machine will be taken from the express office, and to pay return charges if not taken out.

In ordering, say what size of machine you want, as given on page 11. Address,

JESSE L. BRANSON,
30 East Fourth Street,
CINCINNATI, OHIO.

P. S.—Instructions always given at our office without charge. Call and see the machines work.

THE NEW BRANSON KNITTER.



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THE BRANSON

IMPROVED

KNITTING MACHINE.

THE need of a good FAMILY KNITTING MACHINE, one that will knit ALL SIZES of socks or stockings for a WHOLE FAMILY, one SIMPLE enough to be easily understood and operated, and CHEAP enough to pay for the investment, has long been needed. Seeing the necessity of such a machine, James L. Branson, the inventor of the now celebrated Branson Knitting Machine, in 1872 produced and patented what was then known as the "Branson Family Knitting Machine," which, at that time, was considered the most perfect Knitting Machine yet invented, and excited the wonder and praise of all who then saw it in operation; but, like all new inventions, it was far from being perfect—and none saw its defects so plainly as the inventor himself.

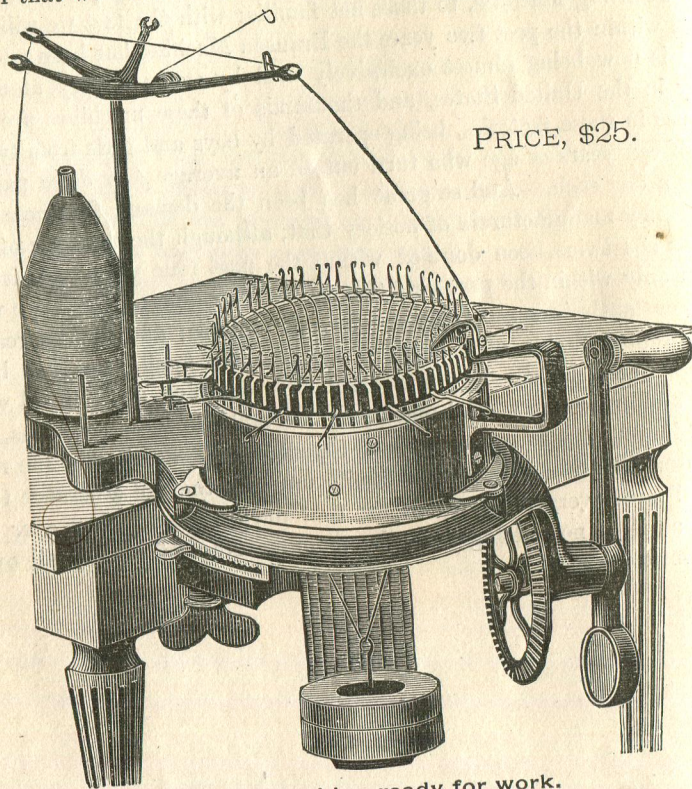
Recognizing the great axiom among mechanics that simplicity of construction and the fewest parts used to produce a given result is the great element of success in all machinery, it has been the great aim of the inventor of the Branson Knitting Machine, in all his improvements, to accomplish this object. How well he has succeeded, it might be only necessary to state that less than one-half the number of pieces are now used in constructing the present machine that were used in the first, yet producing far greater and more perfect results; and no Knitting Machine ever invented has so few parts or is so solidly constructed as the Branson. No pains or expense has been spared to make this machine what it has become, the most simple and perfect Knitting Machine of the age for both family and manufacturers' use.

The Branson Knitter has now been before the public in various improved forms for the past twelve years, each year becoming more simple and perfect in its operation, always keeping ahead of its rivals,

always meeting with unbounded praise wherever shown or used, winning the highest awards at the American Institute, New York City, November 20, 1875, for its "extremely simple construction;" at the Centennial Exposition, medal and diploma "for simplicity of construction, good workmanship, and fitness for purposes intended;" at the Cincinnati and Chicago yearly Industrial Expositions; at the Atlanta Cotton Exposition, and numerous other exhibitions, at all of which it has received the highest awards from the judges, both for the machine itself and the superiority of the work-made with it; and thousands of visitors to these exhibitions can testify to having seen these machines in operation in the hands of the young lady operators turning out a pair of men's socks or ladies' full length hose every ten minutes. And as still further proof of the superiority and practicability of the Branson Knitting Machine, to those not familiar with the fact we will state that within the past five years the Branson Machine has been adopted and is now being almost exclusively used by every hosiery manufactory in the United States, and thousands of these machines are now in use in these factories, being operated by boys and girls from twelve to fifteen years of age who turn out on an average *four dozen* pair of hose a day each. And so great has been the demand for these machines by manufacturers of hosiery that, although the capacity of the shops has twice been doubled within the past four years, yet it has been only within the past year that it has been able to keep pace with the constantly increasing demand for this purpose; and for this reason the original design of a knitting machine for family use has been almost lost sight of. But now, with our extensive shops filled with new and expensive special machinery for building these machines, we will, in response to numerous and repeated calls, again offer the new Branson Knitting Machine for family use with the full assurance that it will meet every requirement for that purpose better than ever before, as it is now doing with the manufacturers of hosiery all over the world.

ILLUSTRATED DESCRIPTION OF MACHINE.

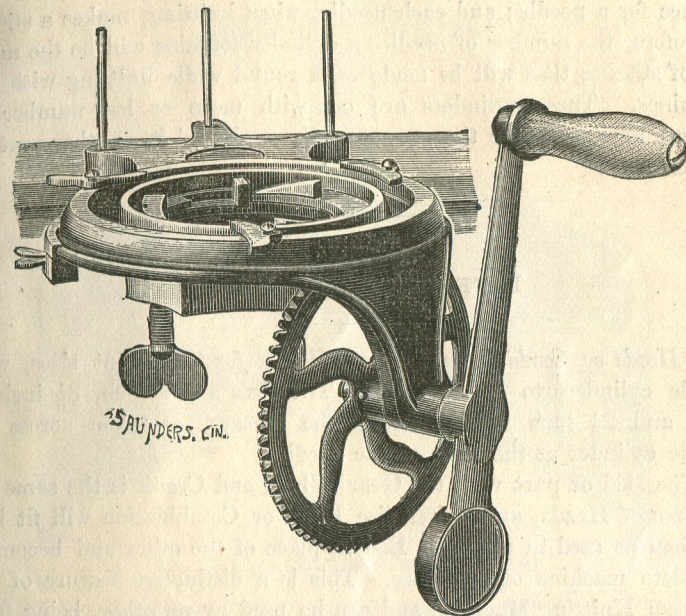
As the Knitting Machine for family use is comparatively a new invention and but little understood by the people in general, therefore our description of it in this circular will be made as though the reader had no practical knowledge of one whatever. And by drawings and explanations of the different parts of the machine we shall endeavor to describe the Branson Knitting Machine and its workings so clearly that its simplicity and completeness will be easily understood from reading this circular. And we shall also endeavor to answer such questions as are usually asked in letters of inquiry and give such other information of what the machine will and will not do, as will enable any one who wishes to purchase a machine to see that they may order the Branson Machine of us with entire confidence that it will be and do all that we claim for it.



PRICE, \$25.

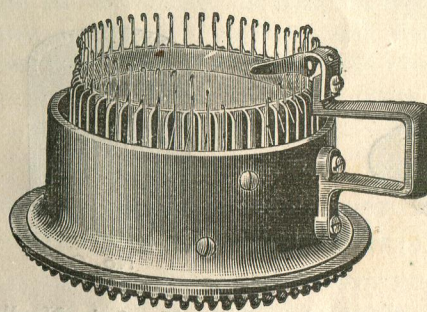
No. 1.—Machine ready for work.

CUT No. 1 shows the Branson Knitting Machine as seen when fastened to a table ready for operation.

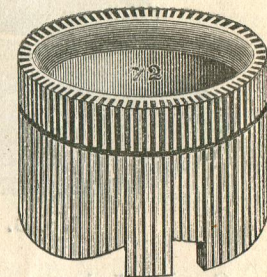


No. 2.—Bed, with Gear Wheel.

CUT No. 2 shows what we term the "Bed" of the machine, with gear wheel and crank for running it.



No. 3.—Combination or Head.



No. 4.—Needle Cylinder.

The "Head or Combination," as shown in cut No. 3, being detached or taken off the bed.

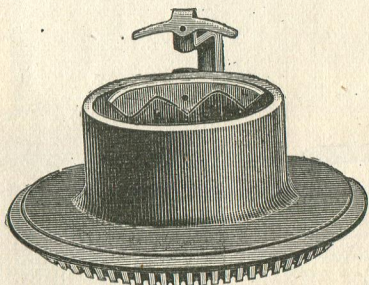
CUT No. 4 shows what is known as the "Needle Cylinder" when removed from the head. Each groove or slot in this cylinder shows

a place for a needle; and each needle, when knitting, makes a stitch. Therefore, the number of needles a cylinder contains will be the number of stitches that will be made each round while knitting with the machines. These cylinders are cut with more or less number of grooves for needles for the purpose fully explained in another part of this circular.

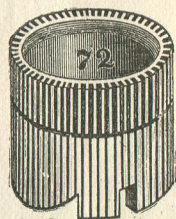
DIFFERENT SIZE HEADS.

"Heads or Combinations" are made in four different sizes, with needle cylinders to fit each size. The sizes are 4 inch, 3½ inch, 3 inch, and 2½ inch in diameter. The measure is taken across the needle cylinder at the back of the needles.

The Bed or part with the Gear Wheel and Crank is the same for all sizes of Heads, and either size Head or Combination will fit into and can be used in the same Bed in place of the other and become a complete machine of that size. This is a distinctive feature of the Branson Knitting Machine, and can be used by no other, being fully covered by patents, the great advantage of which will be fully shown further along in this circular.

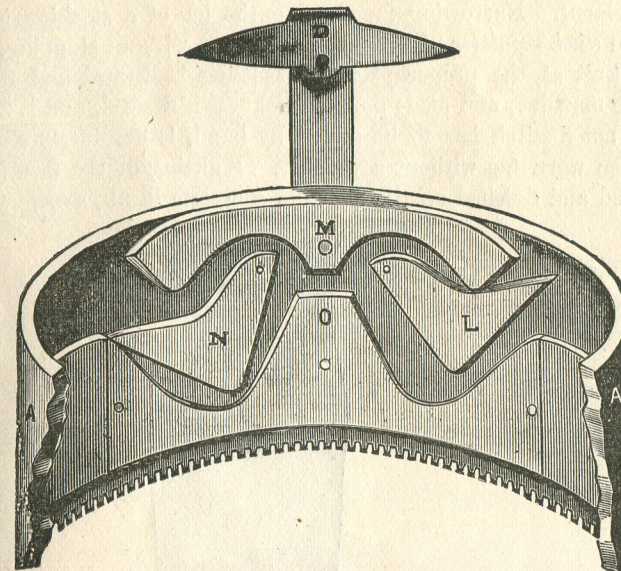


No. 5.



No. 6.

CUT No. 5 shows a smaller size Head, and Cut No. 6 the Needle Cylinder belonging to it removed from the Head. It will be readily seen from these cuts how different size Heads are made to fit in the same Bed. The Rim of the Head which connects with the Cogs of the Gear Wheel of the Bed is the same size for all heads, the Cup for holding the Needle Cylinder being the part made of different sizes.



No. 7.—Inside View of Machine.

CUT No. 7 gives an inside view of machine, and shows the entire working and wearing parts. The extreme simplicity of the machine can be seen at a glance by this cut. The cams L and R perform the entire operation of knitting backward and forward. The other cams are merely guides. These two cams are made of the best steel, and will last indefinitely. It does not require an expert to see that the whole machine is "simplicity itself simplified." Any one can understand its workings by watching the machine in motion a few minutes, and learn to operate it by a few hours' practice.

WHAT KIND OF HOSIERY DOES THE BRANSON KNITTING MACHINE MAKE, AND HOW IS THE KNITTING DONE?

THE hosiery made on the Branson Machine are perfectly *seamless*. The stitch in plain knitting is exactly the same as made in plain hand knitting, only more even and perfect. In starting the work the knitting is commenced at the top of a sock or stocking, and is set up with a selvedge the same as if knit by hand; and for socks the top may be ribbed as far as required, and then changed to plain knitting

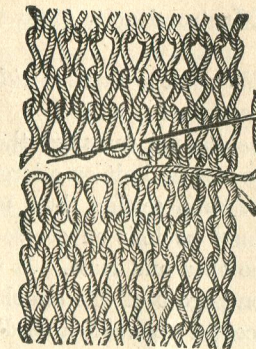
in a moment. Narrowing for shaping the leg of a stocking is done with the *stitch regulator* of the machine almost without stopping. The heel is knit at the proper place by knitting backward and forward with the machine, and made double thickness if desired, and is finished so that not a stitch has to be added by hand, is absolutely seamless, and when worn fits without a wrinkle. Knitting of the foot is then continued and finished on the machine complete in all, except joining



No. 8.

a few stitches at the toe, which is done with a finishing needle by hand after the stocking is taken from the machine, and is the work of only two minutes.

CUT No. 8 represents a man's sock just as it is taken from the machine, not one stitch having been added by hand, and shows where the finishing is to be done at the toe.



No. 9.—Showing the Manner of Closing the Toe.

CUT No. 9 shows the manner of closing the toe with the "*Knitting Stitch*," which leaves no seam, and, if done with the same yarn, can not be distinguished from the other knitting.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Can I learn to use the machine without having some one who understands operating it to teach me?

Yes, with the Book of Instructions which accompanies the machine, it is easily learned. You may not make perfect work on first trial, but you can be assured that you can not easily get the machine out of order or injure it with half fair usage; and you need not spoil much yarn, for the work can be raveled and knit several times if necessary. It is easy to learn to operate the machine, but to learn how to make the different lengths and sizes of hose out of the different grades and numbers of yarns will require more time and experience to learn; but, with the Book of Instruction, which not only gives full and complete directions how to operate the machine and how to make socks, stockings, leggings, mittens, scarfs, wristlets, and such articles which are the main purpose of the machine, but also gives instructions how to make a great variety of fancy work, all of which is illustrated with cuts and explanations so plain that even a child who can read can learn to use it; we will make this statement right here, that out of the hundreds of machines which we have sent out with

nothing but this Book of Instructions to teach the purchaser, we have never had a failure.

Can I knit all sizes of hose on one machine with one cylinder with different grades of yarn, coarse and fine?

No. There is no machine yet invented that will do this. Small sizes of seamless hose can not be knit on a large machine, and the old way of knitting a flat web and sewing them up is too slow and difficult, and fine yarns can not be knit on coarse cylinders and needles, for it makes the work too open and loose. It will be remembered, by referring to Cut No. 4 on page 5 of this circular, it is shown that the number of grooves or places for needles in a needle cylinder is the number of stitches that will be made each round in knitting with the machine.

Now, any lady who understands knitting with the ordinary knitting needles knows that the number of stitches required to be put on the needles in setting up the work depends upon the coarseness or fineness of the yarn and the size of the sock or stocking she desires to knit; that fine yarn requires more stitches and finer needles to knit with than coarse yarn. Yarn that would make a full-sized man's sock with **seventy-two** stitches would be too large if made with **eighty-four** stitches, or too small if knit with **sixty-four** stitches; and if finer yarn was used, **seventy-two** stitches would make the sock too small, but might be the proper number for a boy's or miss's hose. The same rule holds good in the knitting machine—the only difference is that to change the number of stitches you must change the cylinder in the machine. This is why different cylinders, with slots for holding different numbers of needles, are required for the machine. We will take, for example, a machine with a four-inch head with a seventy-two needle cylinder in it, this being the machine most used in knitting coarse yarns for full-sized men's and women's socks and stockings, and is the cylinder which goes with the complete machine for **Twenty-five Dollars**. Take two-ply 14 or 16 cut yarns with this head and cylinder, and you will make full-sized men's and women's hose No. 10, 10½, or 11, or by using two-ply 18 or 20 cut yarn on the same cylinder you would make the sizes 8½ to 9½ inch hose. To make the larger sizes with this 18 or 20 cut yarn an 84 needle cylinder would be required; and to make the No. 8½ to 9½ with the coarse yarns, it would require a 64 needle cylinder. Smaller sizes of misses' and children's hose can not be knit on this four-inch head, as the cylinder is too large in diameter, making the work too open and loose if finer yarns or cylinders with less needles are used. But with a **Three-inch**

Head, with a 64 needle cylinder in it to put in the bed in place of the four-inch head, at an extra cost of **Fifteen Dollars**, and with the same numbers of yarns as above, the sizes from No. 5 to 8 children's and misses' hose can be made with it; and by having a 56 and a 72 needle cylinder extra with this head, all sizes of hose, and nearly every number of yarn, can be knit with these two heads and cylinders. Thus it will be seen that with a machine with a four-inch head and a 72 needle cylinder in it, and by using two or three sizes of yarns, you can make at least **four sizes** of men's and women's hose; and with a three-inch head, and a 64 needle cylinder in it to combine in the same bed with the same yarns, at least *four* sizes of misses' and children's hose can be knit. But it will be found far better to purchase the extra cylinders to knit the different sizes of hose than to depend on getting different numbers of yarns for knitting all the sizes with one cylinder.

What size Head should I order with a Machine?

The 3½ inch and 4 inch heads are for knitting full sizes of men's and women's hose.

The 4 inch head is best adapted for knitting the coarser grades of yarns in making the heavier hose—most generally used in the more Northern States, and such as are generally worn by farmers and working people, and is the best machine to order where a majority of this kind of goods are to be made. The 3 inch head, to combine in the same bed for knitting children's hose and of the same grade of yarns, should be ordered with this machine.

The 3½ inch machine should be ordered for knitting full-size hose out of a finer grade of yarns, and where a lighter weight of goods are required, and the 2½ inch head to combine with this to knit children's hose out of the same grade of yarns.

If a complete machine and combination head of either sizes, and an entire outfit of extra cylinders for knitting all sizes of hose without changing the numbers of yarns is wanted, then the following would be the right thing to order:

One complete machine, with either 3½ or 4 inch head, containing a 72 needle cylinder,	\$25 00
One 3½ or 4 inch 84 needle cylinder and needles @ 6¼ cts.,	5 25
One 2½ or 3 inch combination head, containing a 64 needle cylinder and needles,	15 00
One 2½ or 3 inch 72 needle cylinder and needles @ 6¼ cts.,	4 50
One 2½ or 3 inch 56 needle cylinder and needles @ 6¼ cts.,	3 50

Total outfit, \$53 25

In this you get **one complete machine with two sizes of heads**, which is in reality *two machines*, with two cylinders for one head and three with the other, at one-half the cost of any other two sizes of Knitting Machines ever made. These will knit all the hose needed in any family for a hundred years, and can be made to pay their cost many times by knitting for neighbors and friends at from ten to twenty cents a pair. But it should be remembered that you can buy the **one complete machine for twenty-five dollars** at first, and try it and prove its practicability and profit, and at any other time add the **other head and extra cylinders** without any additional cost over what you would pay for them if ordered all at one time, except the additional express charges for shipping.

SAMPLES OF KNITTING.

MANY of those who write to us for descriptive circulars also ask us to send samples of knitting done by the machine. We might send out samples cut from plain and fancy knitting along with our circulars, as some other advertisers of Knitting Machines are doing, which would prove nothing of the practical working of the machine, and might be used to mislead and deceive the would-be purchaser. The only samples that we send out or that will show the practical working of the machine is *complete finished work done on the machine*, a pair of socks or stocking, or, what is still better, a pair each of men's, women's, and children's hose, showing the different sizes and grades of work done on the machine. It will be readily seen that we could not afford to send these samples free to each inquirer. Below we give a PRICE LIST OF SAMPLES, any of which we will send by mail, *postage paid*, on receipt of price given. These samples are worth more than the price charged for them, and will be sent to show the work of the Branson Knitting Machine; and if a machine is ordered we will guarantee that these goods can be made on the machine as represented, or we will take the machine back and refund the money paid for it.

PRICE LIST FOR SAMPLES COTTON HOSE.

One pair of men's socks, sizes No. 10, 10½, or 11, knit on 3½ or 4 inch machine with 72 or 84 needle cylinder,	\$0 15
One pair women's long hose, size No. 8, 9, or 10, knit on 3½ or 4 inch machine with 72 or 84 needle cylinder,	20
One pair of children's hose, size No. 5, 6, or 7, knit on 2½ or 3 inch machine with 56, 64, or 72 needle cylinder,	15
Or all three pair for	\$0 50

Or one pair of each kind and of either size on each size head (six pair in all), \$1 00

PRICE LIST FOR SAMPLES WOOL HOSE,

Knit on same Machines and Cylinders as the above list of Cotton.

One pair men's heavy wool socks, size No. 10, 10½, or 11,	\$0 30
One pair woman's long wool hose, size No. 8, 9, or 10,	40
One pair children's wool hose, size No. 5, 6, or 7,	30
Or all three pairs,	\$1 00
Or six pairs for	2 00

These samples, when sent, will be labeled with the size head and number of needles in cylinder with which they were knit.

The sizes of hose by numbers, as given above, is the measure in inches from point of toe to back of heel in the foot, and will fit a foot measuring the same number of inches in length. In ordering samples, say what size by number you want them and on what size machine you want them knit.

WILL IT PAY TO BUY A KNITTING MACHINE?

THIS is a question which is naturally asked by those who may think of purchasing a machine; and we propose, by presenting a few *facts and figures*, to answer this question and show that no more profitable investment can be made for family use, for neighborhood work, or for manufacturing for the wholesale or retail trade on a small or large scale than the knitting machine, and that there is nothing which requires so small an investment of money with which a man, woman, or a family can make a living so easily and surely as with one or more of these machines. It must be remembered that the manufacture of seamless hosiery otherwise than by hand, as is now made on the Branson Machine, is only a recent thing, and that the business is only in its infancy. That the demand for these seamless hosiery is daily increasing and is fast taking the place of all other make of hosiery, and these goods have already greatly decreased the vast foreign importation of hosiery each year since the introduction of this machine, as proof that the manufacture of hosiery is a paying business and not overdone, will be shown by the fact that to our certain

knowledge nearly all the large manufacturers of hosiery in the West who are now running from ten to one hundred Branson Machines started within the last five years with the small beginning of from *one to six* machines, and are now running full time on orders and are still increasing their capacity. That one or more of these machines can be kept constantly employed in every town, village, and neighborhood in every part of the country, with large profits to the owner, has been fully demonstrated in every instance by those who have bought machines of us for this purpose, and many who have bought machines expressly for their own family use have soon paid for them by unsolicited work from neighbors and friends, and found them a source of unexpected profit—for what family is willing to allow a machine to remain idle when from **two to five dollars a day** can be earned by its use by some member of the family? and what woman is willing to spend **days**, and perhaps **weeks**, knitting a pair of socks or stockings when she can get the same work done in a few minutes for from ten to twenty cents on a knitting machine in the neighborhood?

The following figures show the

COSTS AND PROFITS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF COTTON HOSEIERY ON THE BRANSON KNITTING MACHINE.

Two pounds of cotton yarn makes *one* dozen pairs of men's heavy socks. This yarn can be bought in any market for from 22 to 25 cents a pound. We will supply this yarn at the latter figure in small lots, done up in five-pound packages. This makes the cost for material in one dozen pairs of men's cotton socks of two pounds 50 cents. These socks retail in any store at 15 cents a pair, or two pairs for 25 cents, or for \$1.50 a dozen, and wholesale at from \$1.10 to \$1.20 per dozen. Here, then, is a profit for knitting, if sold at retail, of from \$1.00 to \$1.30 per dozen; or, if sold at wholesale, of from 60 to 70 cents per dozen.

An experienced knitter will knit **four dozen pairs** of these socks in *one day* with a machine, giving a profit for knitting of from \$4.80 to \$5.20 a day if sold at retail, or of from \$2.40 to \$2.80 if sold at wholesale, and leaves the same amount of profit to the merchant who retails them.

Children's hose, which sell for about the same price as the above, and for which there is a still greater demand for these seamless goods, give a still better profit, as they take less yarn and a greater number

can be knit in a day. It should be remembered that these goods must not be classed with the cheap cotton hosiery so generally found in the stores of the country, which are cut and sewed into shape with heavy, uncomfortable seams in the foot, and are usually made out of single thread yarn, with just sufficient twist to hold it together, of the cheapest cotton that can be bought. It is well known that these goods will only last a few days' wear. The seamless goods made on the "Branson" do not come in competition with this trashy stuff.

THE PROFITS ON WOOLEN HOSEIERY ARE BETTER.

A good quality of clean wool yarn can be bought from any woolen mill or dealer in yarns at *seventy-five cents* a pound. Two pounds of this yarn makes one dozen pairs of full-size men's socks, which retail in any store at from 35 to 40 cents a pair,

Or for	\$4 20	per dozen.
Cost of yarn, 2 pounds, at 75 cents,	1 50	"
Profit for knitting, if sold at retail,	\$2 70	"
Profit on day's work of	4	doz. pairs.
When sold at retail	\$10 80	
These socks bring at wholesale to merchants to sell again		
at retail,	3 00	"
Cost of yarn,	1 50	"
Profit at wholesale for knitting,	1 50	"
Profit for day's knitting of	4	"
When sold at wholesale,	\$5 00	
And still leaving the retail dealer	5 80	
for selling same.		

There are probably but few persons who comprehend what an extensive business the manufacture of hosiery must necessarily be. To give some idea of its magnitude we will take a single county with, say, 40,000 inhabitants, which is an average county. Each person must have at least *four pair* of hose each year, which every one must admit is a low average estimate. Here, then, is 160,000 pairs, or 13,333 dozen pairs used each year in this one county. This would require eleven machines, with an average of four dozen pairs a day each, one year to knit, or one machine eleven years to knit; and if a net profit of only twenty-five cents a dozen were made on these hose, over \$3,300 would be realized for the knitting. This will be sufficient to show the extent of the knitting business in this county alone, and those who engage in the business first will reap the greatest benefit.